

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CONNAH'S QUAY.

Annual Report of Medical Officer of
Health and Public Health Inspector

For the

Year ended 31st December, 1959.



Public Health Department.

4th. November, 1960.

To the Chairman and Members of the
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CONNAH'S QUAY.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health of the Connah's Quay Urban District for the year 1959.

The estimated population for mid - year 1959 is 8030 an increase of 80 on the figure for 1958. The birth and death rates are based on this estimated mid - year population.

For estimating birth and death rates for comparison with rates from other districts and the rates for England and Wales, a comparability factor is given by The Registrar General allowance being made for the age and sex distribution in the District. This factor in 1959 being 0.95 for births and 1.38 for deaths. Since NO useful purpose is served by showing crude rates this will be discontinued.

A total number of births during 1959 was 183, 24 more than in 1958 giving an adjusted birth rate of 21.6 per 1,000 population as compared with a rate of 19.2 in 1958, and with the birth rate of 16.5 for England and Wales for 1959.

The number of deaths during the year was 69 as compared with 71 in 1958 giving a death rate 11.9. per 1,000 population as compared with a rate 12.4. for the district in 1958; and a rate of 11.6. for England and Wales for the year under review.

There were 6 deaths of infants under one year of age during 1959, giving a rate of 32.8. per. 1,000 live births, compared with a rate of 22.0. per 1,000 live births for England and Wales during the year, and a rate of 19.5. per 1,000 live births in this district during 1958.

The principal cause of death was disease of the heart and circulatory system of the 69 deaths during the year 35 occurred from disease of the heart and circulatory system, (i.e.,) 50.7. per cent of all deaths. Cancer accounted for 15 deaths, (i.e.,) 21.7. per cent of all deaths. Bronchitis and other respiratory diseases accounted for 7 deaths (i.e.,) 10.1. per cent of all deaths so that these three main groupings of diseases, (i.e.,) disease of the heart and circulatory system, cancer and respiratory infections accounted for 82.6. per cent.

There were no deaths from tuberculosis, compared with a death rate for England and Wales of 77 per million population for respiratory tuberculosis and 8 per million population for other forms of tuberculosis.

There were 6 deaths due to cancer of the lung and bronchus, and 9 deaths from other forms of cancer. With regard to infectious diseases there were increases in the notifications of cases of measles and whooping cough, there being 46 cases of measles as against 17 in 1958 and 14 cases of whooping cough compared with one in the previous year.

There was a decrease in the fresh cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year, 14 in 1958 to 6 in the year under review, and during 1959 notifications were received of one case of meningitis and 3 cases of pneumonia.

The milk, ice - cream and water samples taken during the year were satisfactory.

To conclude Ladies and Gentlemen, I must thank all members of your Health Committee for their continued support, and in particular, your Chairman, Councillor M. Thomas who was particularly helpful during the year, I should also like to thank your Clerk, Mr. L. Williams, and indeed all your Officials, who gave me their continued and willing help during the year.

I should like to take this opportunity of placing on record my thanks to your Public Health Inspector, Mr. C. Stoddard, for his help during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

A. CATHCART.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area	4,218 acres
Population	8,030
Rateable Value	£579,311
Product of Penny Rate	£2,418

Social Conditions :-

The Urban District of Connah's Quay is on the Southwest bank of the River Dee.

The climate is temperate in all seasons, making the winter somewhat mild and giving the District a healthy aspect.

There is very little unemployment in the District.

Vital Statistics:-

		<u>1956</u>			<u>1957</u>			<u>1958</u>			<u>1959.</u>	
		M	F		M	F		M	F		M	F
Live Births	128			113			159			183		
Legitimate	121	68	53	105	51	54	155	79	76	179	89	90
Illegitimate	7	2	5	8	4	4	4	2	2	4	3	1

Birth Rate per 1,000 population:-

Connah's Quay	16.3	14.3	19.2	21.6
England & Wales	15.6	16.1	16.4	16.5

Still Births:-

Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths:-

Connah's Quay.	15.4	34.1	25.4	10.3
England & Wales.	22.9	22.5	21.6	20.7

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births:-

Connah's Quay.	-	17.7	19.5	32.8
England & Wales.	23.7	23.1	22.5	22.0

Deaths From All Causes:-

Total	65	69	71	69
Connah's Quay.-rate	12.0	12.7	12.4	11.9
England & Wales.- rate	11.7	11.5	11.7	11.6

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF BIRTH RATES.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Connah's Quay</u>	<u>England & Wales.</u>
1956	16.3	15.6
1957	14.3	16.1
1958	19.2	16.4
1959	21.6	16.5

	<u>MALES</u>	<u>FEMALES</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>
Number of deaths from all causes.	42	27	69
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis.	-	-	-
Other Puerperal causes.	-	-	-
Deaths from Cancer of Lungs and Bronchus.	6	-	6
Deaths from other forms of Cancer.	6	3	9
Deaths from Measles.	-	-	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough.	-	-	-

Comparative Table of Death Rates.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Connah's Quay</u>	<u>England & Wales.</u>
1956	11.9	11.6
1957	12.0	11.7
1958	12.7	11.5
1959	12.4	11.7

DEATHS. 1959.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Tuberculosis Respiratory	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Other	-	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	(1)	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles.	-	-	-
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	4	-	4
" " , Lung, Bronchus	6	-	6
" " , Breast	-	2	2
" " , Uterus	-	1	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms.	2	-	2
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia.	-	-	-
Diabetes.	-	-	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	2	5	7
Coronary Disease, Angina.	9	3	12
Hypertension with Heart Disease.	4	3	7
Other Heart Disease.	1	3	4
Other Circulatory Disease.	2	3	5
Influenza.	-	-	-
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Bronchitis.	2	1	3
Other Disease of Respiratory System.	-	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.	1	-	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea.	1	-	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis.	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate.	-	-	-
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations.	-	-	-
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases.	3	4	7
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-	1
All other Accidents.	1	-	1
Suicide	1	-	1
Homicide and Operations of War,	-	-	-
All Causes.....	42	27	69

SECTION B.

General Provisions of Health Services in the Area.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health.

A. Cathcart, M.B.Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M. & Hy.

Public Health Inspector.

C. Stoddard, M.A.P.H.I.

Qualifications

- (a) Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the S.I.E.J.B.
- (b) Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate for Inspection of meat and other foods.

The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health for Buckley U.D.C., Hawarden R.D.C. and Overton R.D.C., and Assistant County Medical Officer of Health.

The Public Health Inspector is full-time and is responsible for the supervision of Refuse Collection and Salvage, work under Public Health Acts, Housing Acts, Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 Pet Animals Act, Slaughter of Animals Acts, Clean Air Act, and is responsible for inspections under Factories Act, 1937, which includes Means of Escape in Case of Fire.

Clerical.

The conditions are similar as those mentioned in the Annual Report for 1952, the Public Health Inspector keeping routine continuity of the Department.

Laboratory Facilities.

- (1) Public Health Laboratory Service, Conway.
- (2) Royal Infirmary, Chester.
- (3) Public Health Laboratory Service, Birkenhead.

Nursing in Home.

The nursing of non-infectious sick is carried out by the District Nursing Association and home help is provided in the district.

Clinics.

A Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic is held weekly at the Drill Hall, Connah's Quay where a voluntary staff assist in the distribution of welfare foods.

Hospitals.

- (a) The Liverpool Hospital Regional Board (Which includes Chester).
- (b) Clwyd and Deeside Management Committee.

Meals on Wheels.

During the year a meals on wheels service was inaugurated to supply hot meals to elderly people twice a week.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances in the Area.

WATER.

Present Supply and Description of Works.

The district is supplied with water from two sources, the greater part comes from tappings on the Birkenhead Aqueduct, and is passed directly to the district. The remainder of the water is taken from the Council's own Gathering-Ground at the waterworks.

The Waterworks comprise wooded under - drained Gathering Ground of some 12 acres in extent, from which a main drain conveys water to a chemical house and coagulation tanks. From these tanks, water passes into two storage reservoirs of 100,000 and 250,000 gall. capacity respectively, and is pumped through two pressure filters and base exchange type softener to a treated water storage tank of 100,000 gallons capacity, the filtered water is chlorinated on route from the softener to the storage tank.

QUANTITY

125,167,000 galls. were supplied to the District; of this quantity 44,362,000 galls. were from the Birkenhead Aqueduct and 80805,000 galls. from the Councils own gathering - ground.

QUALITY.

13 samples were taken for bacteriological examination during the year, and 3 samples for chemical examination. All were satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The sewage is turned untreated from various outfalls into the River Dee and at present a Consulting Engineer is preparing a Sewage Disposal Scheme for the whole area.

RIVER AND STREAMS.

The Outlets of two streams into the River are contiguous with the outlets of the sewerage and at high tide this causes back flooding of the streams with a consequent deposit.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Public cleansing is carried out satisfactorily.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

A weekly collection of household refuse was maintained during the year. The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on a centrally situated site. This tip is levelled daily using a Ferguson tractor fitted with an earthmover blade, and covering material is obtained from a sandpit owned by the Council. Insecticides are used to control insects, and rodent operator carries out regular control measures against rats.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Some observations and visits were made concerning excessive emission of smoke from factories and this excess was not due to defective structure for combustion, but chiefly to methods of firing.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no swimming baths and pools in the area. Open air bathing takes place in the River Dee And during the summer months beach guards are appointed and during school holidays. The nearest indoor swimming baths are 5 miles. away. The Council have however, plans in hand for the erection of a swimming bath and Assembly Hall on the Civic Centre at Wepre Drive, and it is hoped that construction will commence during 1960.

RODENT CONTROL.

During the year rodent control measures were carried out by a man employed jointly as rodent operator and tip attendant, and the following work was carried out during 1958:-

Premises Inspected.	917
Premises found infested by rats or mice.	150
Premises treated by Local Authority.	147

SECTION D.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases Generally.

Premises where infections occurred were disinfected when necessary.

Bedding from deceased cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was destroyed, payments being made to owners.

Notifications during 1959.

Measles.	46
Scarlet Fever.	1
Whooping Cough.	14
Cerebrospinal Meningitis.	1
Pneumonia.	3

Tuberculosis.

New cases notified

Pulmonary	-	6	Non-Pulmonary	-	0	Total	-	6
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SECTION E.

Food Supervision.

(1) Number of Food Premises in Area.

Butchers Shops.	9.	Greengrocers.	5.
Licensed Premises	10.	Grocers.	14.
Cafe's Restaurants, Etc.,	5.	Bakehouses.	3.
Canteens & School Kitchens	5.	General Shops.	24.
Fish Friers.	5.	Manufacture of Cooked	
Fishmongers	3.	meat and Sausage.	4.
Fishmongers & Greengrocers.	4.	Wholesale Meat Supply.	1.

(2) Number of Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

(A) For the manufacture, storage and sale of Ice-cream (complete cold mix)	1.
(B) For the storage and sale of Ice-cream	18.
(C) For the manufacture of cooked meats and sausages.	7.

(3) Number of Inspections of Registered Food Premises

Ice-cream premises	40.
Manufacture of cooked meat and sausages	59.

(4) Educational Activities.

Publicity material was distributed to various food premises and schools and was also displayed in the windows of the Headquarters of the local detachment of the British Red Cross Society by the kind permission of the Commandant, and talks were given to the staffs of various food handling business during visits to the premises.

(5) Method of Disposal of Condemned Food.

- (a) ~~Canned~~ goods etc. are buried in the Council refuse tip after all containers have been opened.
- (b) Meat and offal condemned at the Slaughterhouse in the District is dyed and the owners are permitted to dispose of it to an animal by-products firm in a neighbouring District.

(6) No special examinations were made of any stock or consignment of food.

(7) Ice-Cream Heat Treatment Regulations.

Samples were taken from the dealer registered to manufacture ice-cream by the complete cold mix method and from retailers registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream. Samples of ice-cream and ice-lollies were reported on as follows:

Ice-Cream	Grade 1	11 Samples
	Grade (II)	-
	Grade III	-
	Grade IV	-
Ice-Lollies	B. Coli & Staph Aureus	Absent - 2 Samples
	" " "	Present - -

All registered retailers sell prepacked ice-cream, a number of retailers from outside the area visit the District in the evenings and at week-ends selling loose ice-cream. Inspections of these vehicles were made from time to time, and while facilities for providing hot water were usually available, these were not always being used. This was taken up with the retailers concerned and improvements obtained, but due to frequent changes of staff this improvement was not maintained without constant inspection.

(8) Food Hygiene Regulations.

There was a continuation in the improvements in food handling during the year, particularly in the refitting of premises; but there have still been difficulties in ensuring that persons employed in the shops make the fullest use of the facilities provided.

The use of mobile-shops in the newly developed areas still continues, but there has been an improvement in the hygiene of these vehicles.

(9) Meat Inspection.

There are three licensed slaughterhouses in the District of which two are small premises handling the requirements of the occupiers, and the other slaughterhouse is operated by a wholesale supply company which supplies meat in the Deeside area, and part of Cheshire. Most of the Slaughtering is carried out in the late afternoon and evenings on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and Sunday mornings and afternoons. To carry out an efficient inspection of this meat it has been necessary for the inspection to be made outside normal hours, and 380 hours overtime were worked during the year.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	<u>Cattle excluding Cows.</u>	<u>Cows.</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep and Lambs.</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>	<u>Horses.</u>
<u>Number Killed.</u>	1094	89	1	12953	2441.	NIL
<u>Number Inspected.</u>	1094	89	1	12953	2441	NIL
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci.</u>						
<u>Whole carcasses condemned</u>	NIL	NIL	NIL	5	NIL	NIL
<u>Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.</u>	140	18	NIL	319	25	NIL

Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis & Cysticerci.	12.73%	20.22%	0.00%	2.50%	1.02%	
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Tuberculosis Only.

Whole Carcasses condemned.	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	8	2	NIL	NIL	40	NIL
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	0.73%	2.25%	NIL	NIL	1.63%	NIL

Cysticercosis.

Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Generalised and totally condemned.	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

Other Food Stuffs Condemned

Items of Food weighing.	2cwt. 71 Lbs 10 oz.
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Shellfish (Mollusca)

There are no shellfish beds in the area.

SUMMARY OF VISITS MADE BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

	<u>TOTAL.</u>
HouseS- Public Health and Housing Acts.	426
Refuse Collection and Disposal.	140.
Factories Act - Power.	32.
Factories Act - Building Operations.	28.
Factories Act - Escape in Case of Fire.	8.
Infectious Diseases.	2.
Rodent Control.	140.
Slaughterhouses.	615.
Bakehouses.	12.
Cafes, Resturants and Canteens.	26.
Grocery Shops	50.
Fried Fish Shops.	12.
Wet Fish Shops	8.
Greengrocery Shops.	16.
Butchers Shops.	128.
Licensed Premises.	10.
Ice Cream Premises.	40.
Food Preparing Premises.	59.
Moveable Dwellings.	11.
Schools.	18.
Miscellaneous.	138.

(7)

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1959 FOR THE
URBAN DISTRICT OF CONNAH'S QUAY IN THE COUNTY OF FLINTSHIRE,
Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1937.

PART 1. OF THE ACT.

1. - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1).	Number on Register (2)	NUMBER OF.		
		Inspection (3).	Written notices (4).	Occupiers prosecuted (5).
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	32	40	NIL	NIL
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out - workers premises).	16	28	NIL	NIL
TOTAL	48	68	NIL	NIL

2. - Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found,				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
	Found (2)	Rem- edied. (3)	Referred		
			To.	By	
			H.M. Inspector. (4)	H.M. Inspector. (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)					
Overcrowding (S.2)					
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defective.					
(c) Not separate for sexes.					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work).					
TOTAL.					

PART VII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK

(Sections 100 and 111)

There are no outworkers registered in this district.

11. 11. 1911. 11. 11. 1911. 11. 11. 1911.



